EXPLODING FROM THE PAGES OF INVINCIBLE
4
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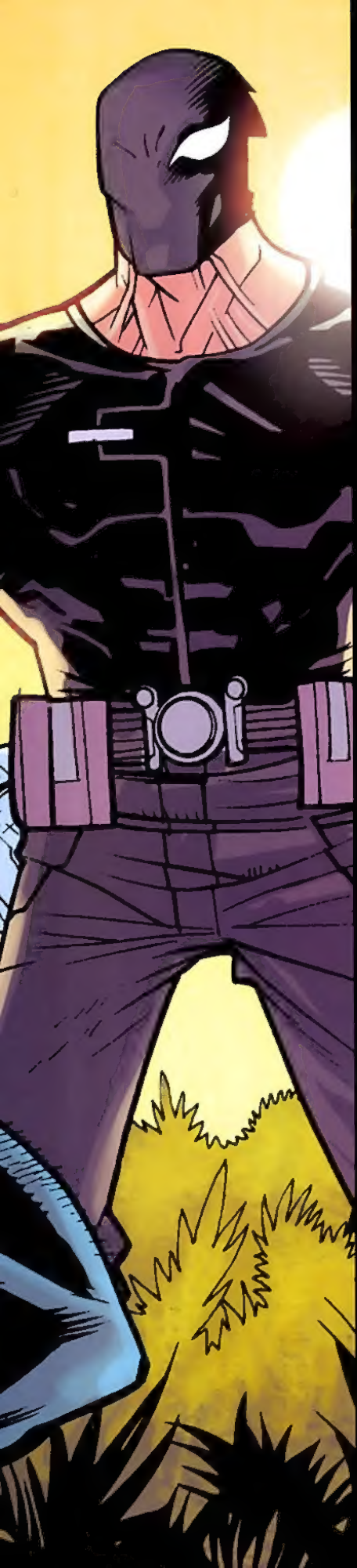
image
BRIT
CLIFF07
BROWN • RATHBURN • KUHN • KIRKMAN



BRIT™

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BRUCE BROWN

penciler, inker, colorist
CLIFF RATHBURN

breakdowns
ANDY KUHN

letterer
RUS WOOTON

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ROBERT KIRKMAN

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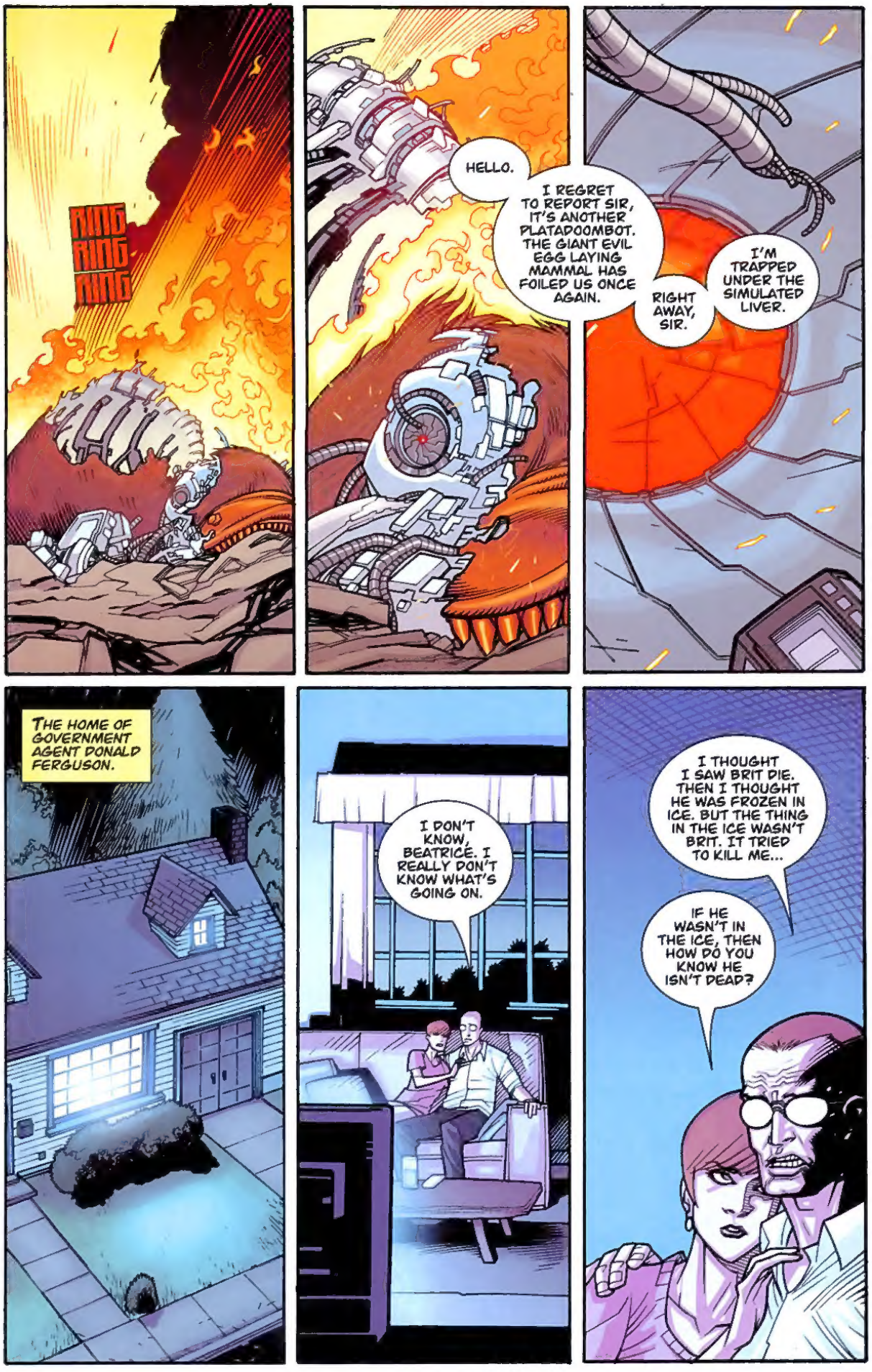
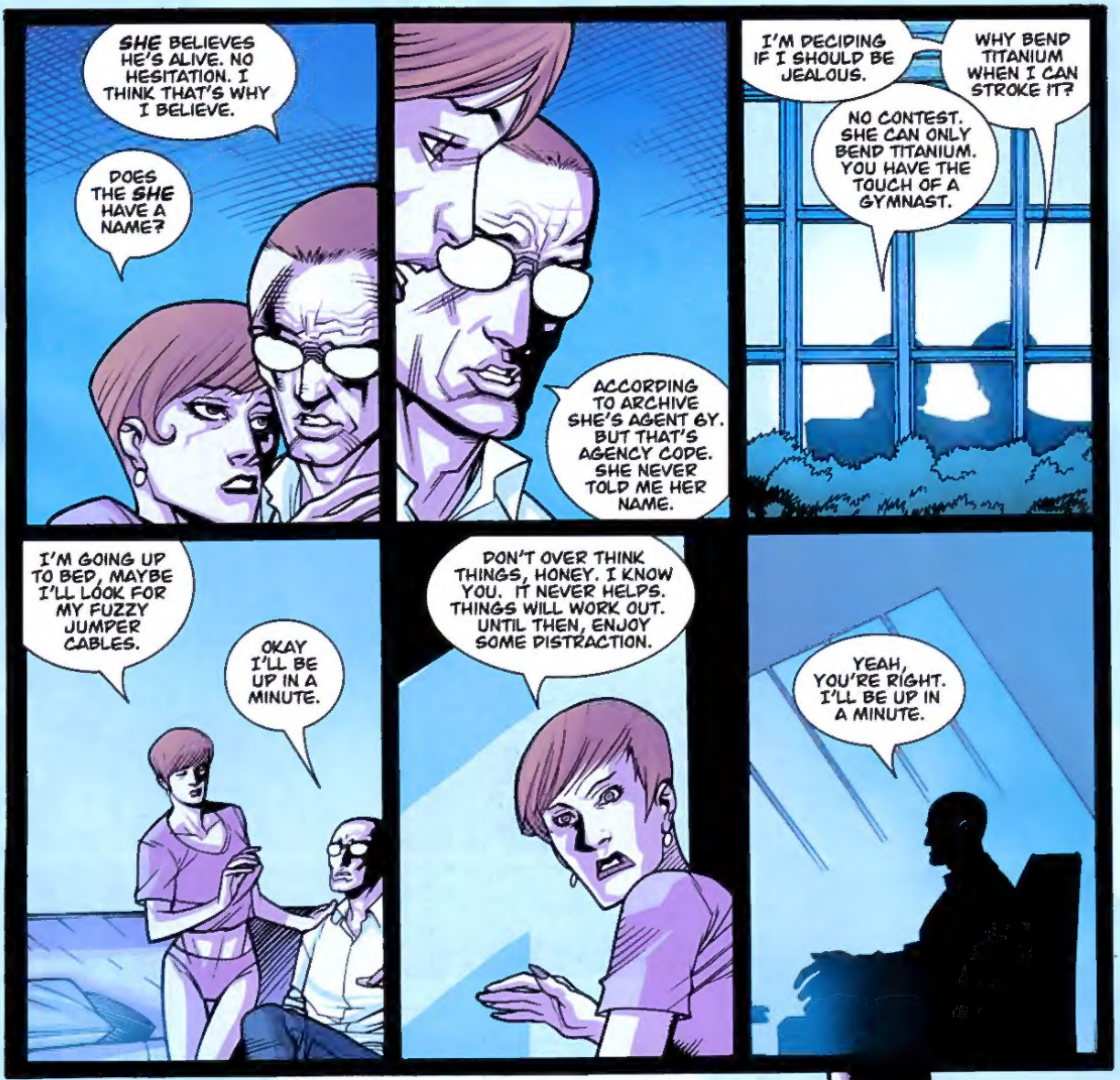
RIGHT NOW.
CHESHIRE, THIS IS ALICE. THE ROSES ARE PAINTED AND WE ARE DUMPING THE HATTER.
SEE YOU IN VALHALLA, PATRIOTS.
♪
BOOM!!!
AWF!
BUCKED BY A FINSOUP ROCKETEER!

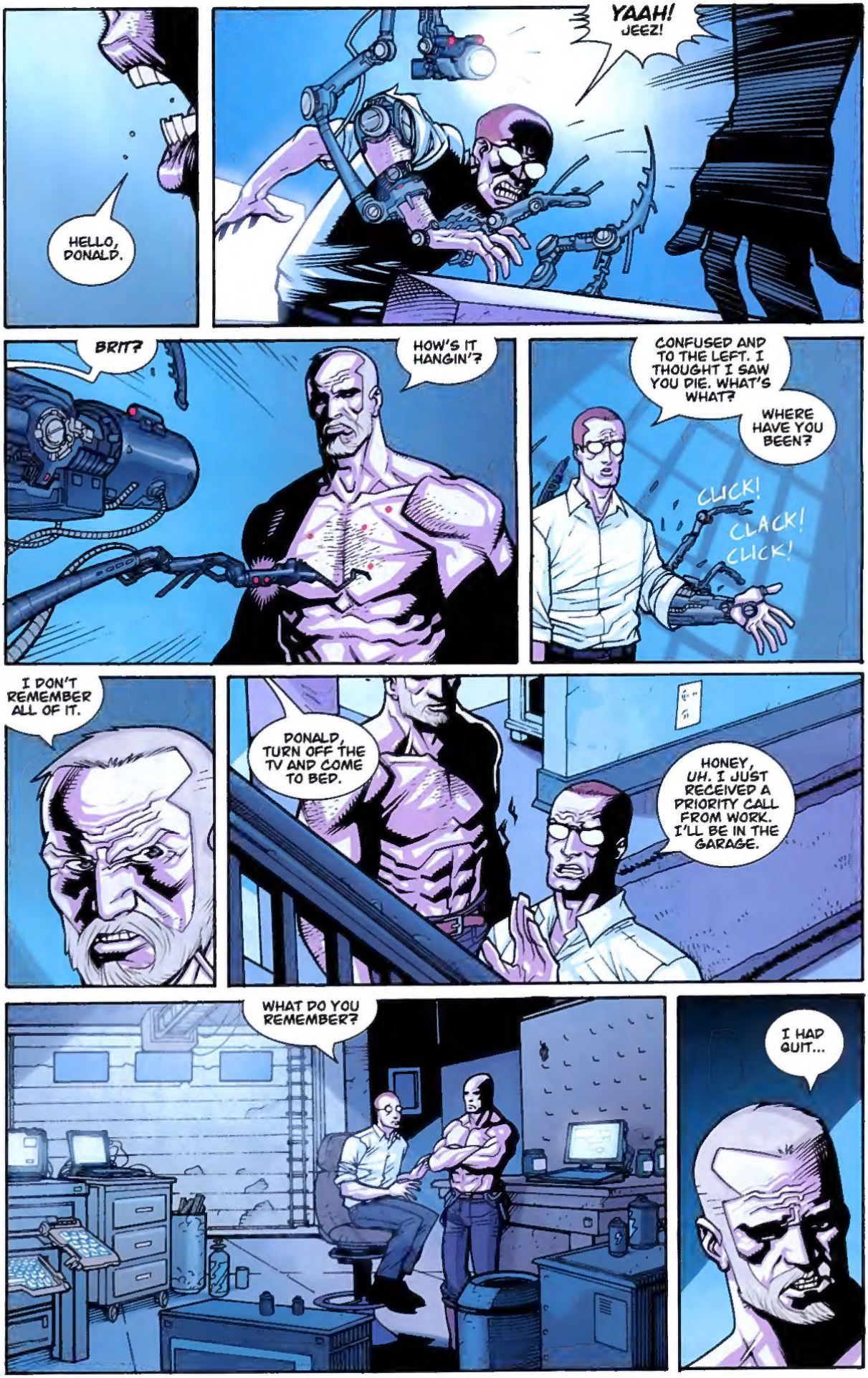
DRYHUMP A BABY SEAL, YOU CARTILAGE SUMBITCH!
FWOOP!
SO MUCH FOR JIM, MR. PERKINS.
COOL. LOOK AT THE DAMN DIRTY APES.
AWWW. YOU NEED A LITTLE FEZ. WANT A PEANUT?
EW.

THIS WOULD MAKE DIAN FOSSEY CRY.
BABY MONKEY WANTS A FELT MONKEY NOT THE WIRE MONKEY.
SVINGG!!
INVENTED BY LUCAS. ABOMINATED IN JERSEY.
PREPARE TO BE ENDANGERED!

DEAR DIARY, I NEED A CIGARETTE.
RUMBLE! RUMBLE!
GREAT GOOGLEY-MOOGLEY!
BEHOLD PLATADOOM!
FWASH!
SWEET BETSY, WHAT WOULD LINCOLN DO?
INTO THE PLATYPUS RODE THE SIX HUNDRED.
DOOM!


RING
RING
RING
HELLO.
I REGRET TO REPORT SIR, IT'S ANOTHER PLATADOOMBOT. THE GIANT EVIL EGG LAYING MAMMAL HAS FOILED US ONCE AGAIN.
RIGHT AWAY, SIR.
I'M TRAPPED UNDER THE SIMULATED LIVER.
THE HOME OF GOVERNMENT AGENT DONALD FERGUSON.
I DON'T KNOW, BEATRICE. I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
I THOUGHT I SAW BRIT DIE. THEN I THOUGHT HE WAS FROZEN IN ICE. BUT THE THING IN THE ICE WASN'T BRIT. IT TRIED TO KILL ME...
IF HE WASN'T IN THE ICE, THEN HOW DO YOU KNOW HE ISN'T DEAD?


SHE BELIEVES HE'S ALIVE. NO HESITATION. I THINK THAT'S WHY I BELIEVE.
DOES THE SHE HAVE A NAME?
ACCORDING TO ARCHIVE SHE'S AGENT 6Y. BUT THAT'S AGENCY CODE. SHE NEVER TOLD ME HER NAME.
I'M DECIDING IF I SHOULD BE JEALOUS.
WHY BEND TITANIUM WHEN I CAN STROKE IT?
NO CONTEST. SHE CAN ONLY BEND TITANIUM. YOU HAVE THE TOUCH OF A GYMNAST.
I'M GOING UP TO BED, MAYBE I'LL LOOK FOR MY FUZZY JUMPER CABLES.
OKAY I'LL BE UP IN A MINUTE.
DON'T OVER THINK THINGS, HONEY. I KNOW YOU. IT NEVER HELPS. THINGS WILL WORK OUT. UNTIL THEN, ENJOY SOME DISTRACTION.
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL BE UP IN A MINUTE.
PEW. HEY, HONEY? ARE YOU COOKING CABBAGE?


HELLO, DONALD.
YAAH! JEEZ!
BRIT?
HOW'S IT HANGIN'?
CONFUSED AND TO THE LEFT. I THOUGHT I SAW YOU DIE. WHAT'S WHAT?
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
CLICK!
CLACK!
CLICK!
I DON'T REMEMBER ALL OF IT.
DONALD, TURN OFF THE TV AND COME TO BED.
HONEY, UH. I JUST RECEIVED A PRIORITY CALL FROM WORK. I'LL BE IN THE GARAGE.
WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER?
I HAD QUIT...

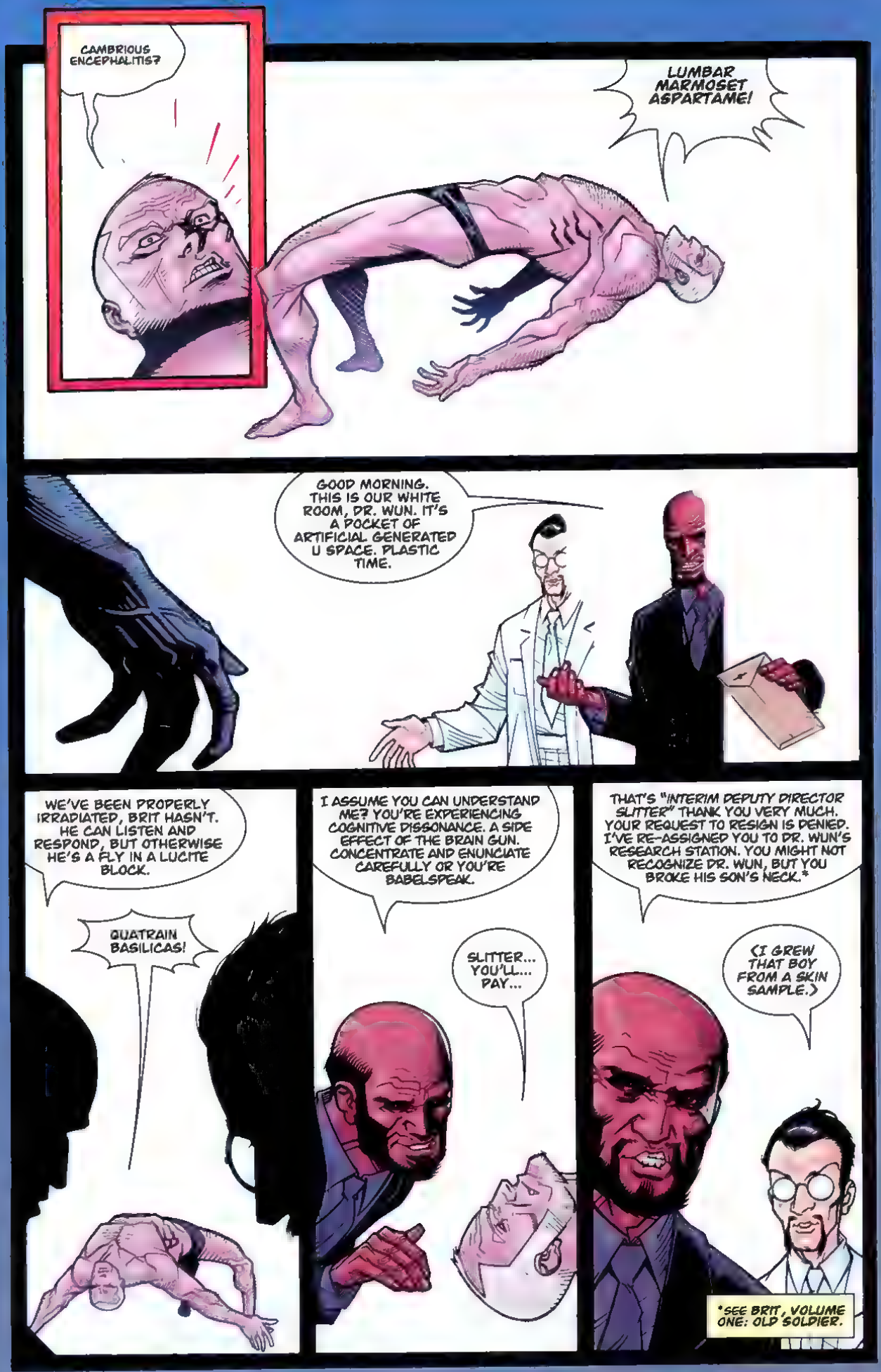
"...BUT I AGREED TO ONE LAST ASSIGNMENT."
12 MONTHS AGO.
I THOUGHT YOU RETIRED?
THIS IS ONE LAST FAVOR FOR THE OLD MAN.
WE'VE GOT INCOMING.
MISSILES?
I'M NOT SURE.
HELL.

FOR CHRIST'S SAKE.
THEY HIT THE FUEL! IT'S--
BOOM!
I SHOULD BE USED TO THIS BY NOW.
SPLOOSH!

?
KHOOM!!!
=COFF!=

NOW THAT'S FISHING.
HELLO, I'M BENT FRANKLIN.
AWK!
POW
OUR FIRST TEAM-UP... RUINED.
I WANT ANSWERS--
UMF!
JACKHOLE, I ALREADY PEE CROOKED.
MMF
WELL, THIS WAS FUN.
SERIOUSLY, NO.

WHAT THE HELL?
WHO DO YOU WORK FOR? WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
CLICK
SOMEONE WANTS TO MEET YOU. HAVE BRAIN GUN WILL TRAVEL, RIGHT?
BANG

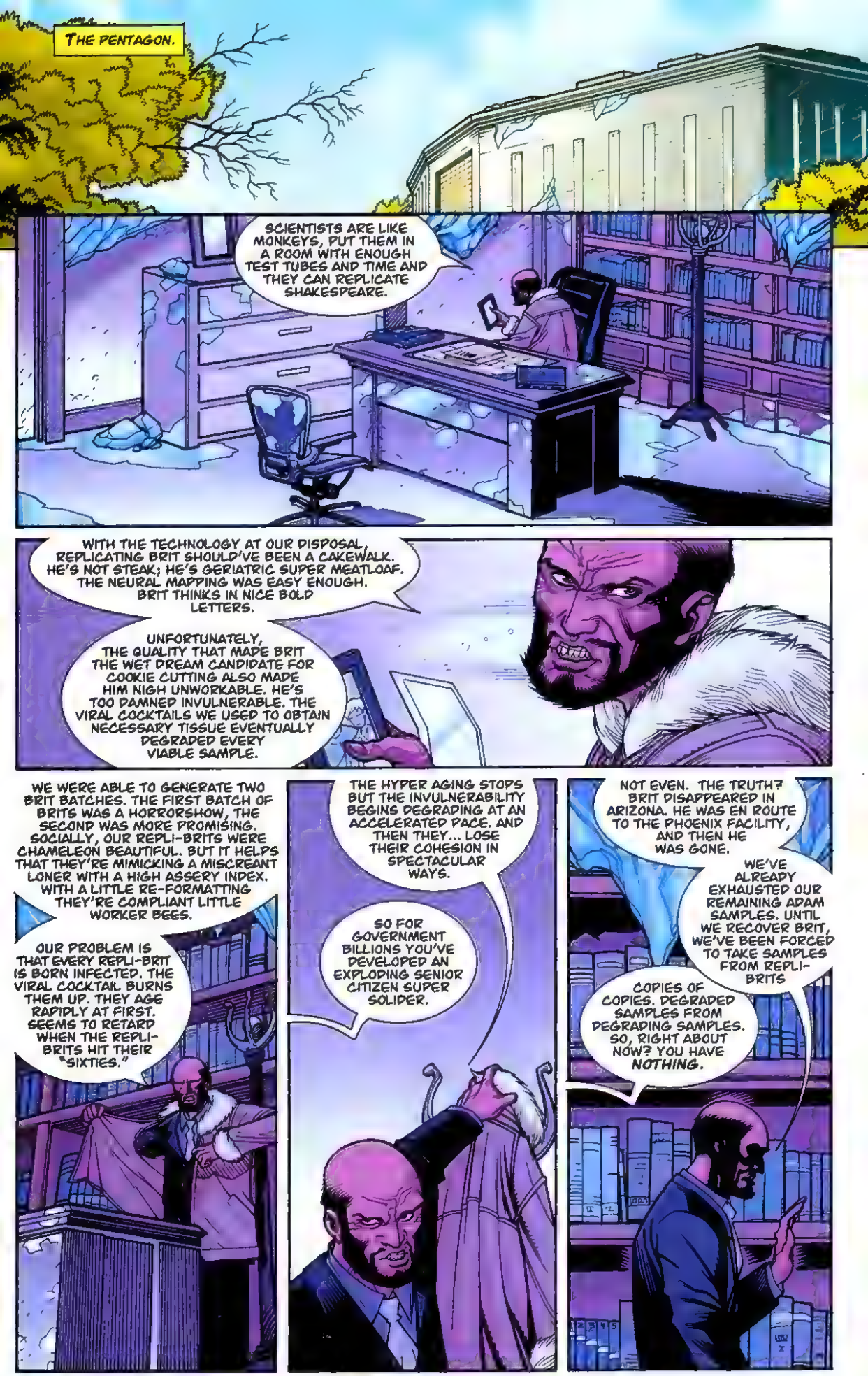

CAMBRIOUS ENCEPHALITIS?
LUMBAR MARMOSET ASPARTAME!
GOOD MORNING. THIS IS OUR WHITE ROOM, DR. WUN. IT'S A POCKET OF ARTIFICIAL GENERATED U SPACE. PLASTIC TIME.
WE'VE BEEN PROPERLY IRRADIATED, BRIT HASN'T. HE CAN LISTEN AND RESPOND, BUT OTHERWISE HE'S A FLY IN A LUCITE BLOCK.
QUATRAIN BASILICAS!
I ASSUME YOU CAN UNDERSTAND ME? YOU'RE EXPERIENCING COGNITIVE DISSONANCE. A SIDE EFFECT OF THE BRAIN GUN. CONCENTRATE AND ENUNCIATE CAREFULLY OR YOU'RE BABELSPEAK.
SLITTER... YOU'LL... PAY...
THAT'S "INTERIM DEPUTY DIRECTOR SLITTER" THANK YOU VERY MUCH. YOUR REQUEST TO RESIGN IS DENIED. I'VE RE-ASSIGNED YOU TO DR. WUN'S RESEARCH STATION. YOU MIGHT NOT RECOGNIZE DR. WUN, BUT YOU BROKE HIS SON'S NECK.*
(I GREW THAT BOY FROM A SKIN SAMPLE.)
*SEE BRIT, VOLUME ONE: OLD SOLDIER.

NOW, I HAVE SOME PAPERWORK FOR YOU TO SIGN.
PTOO!
LOOK DOCTOR, YOUR FIRST SAMPLE.
(SPLENDID.)
NOW THEN, I'VE PREPARED A DEBRIEF OF YOUR FINAL MISSION. MR. FRANKLIN IS CURRENTLY LEVELING THE RESEARCH STATION YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO INFILTRATE, BUT HE'S AGREED TO ALLOW YOU FULL CREDIT.
DESPITE THE UNFORTUNATE LOSS OF YOUR SUPPORT CREW, YOUR MISSION WAS A SUCCESS. ON A MORE POSITIVE NOTE, DURING THE MISSION YOU RECONSIDERED LEAVING THE AGENCY. YOU REQUESTED A THREE MONTH LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR BEREAVEMENT AND ETCETERA AND ETCETERA.
OF COURSE I ENTHUSIASTICALLY APPROVE THIS REQUEST. AFTER THE ALLEGED THREE MONTHS, THE HARVESTING AND GENERAL TESTING SHOULD BE COMPLETE AND WE CAN START PHASE II.
OH, FUN!

I'VE ALSO PREPARED A LETTER TO BE MAILED TO YOUR WIFE. YOU MENTION YOU WON'T BE RETURNING HOME FOR A FEW MONTHS, HINT AT A SEPARATION DUE TO THE EMOTIONAL LOSS OF YOUR EX-WIFE, HER SON, ETCETERA. XOXO. AND YOU'LL BE IN TOUCH.
W...WH... WHAT?
I NEED A PAPER TRAIL, AGENT BRIT. I NEED TO CONTAIN YOU AND I NEED A CREDIBLE EVENT CHAIN. I DON'T WANT ANOTHER ALASKA FIASCO.
THE LAST TIME YOU QUIT WE LOST A LEAD SCIENTIST, A DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND A HALF DOZEN MILITARY PROTOTYPES ATTEMPTING TO RECAPTURE YOU.
IDIOTS. YOU GIVE THESE MILITARY TYPES AN EYE PATCH AND A CIGAR AND THEY START THINKING EVERY SITUATION CAN BE SETTLED WITH AMMO. I CONSIDER THE LONGER VIEW.
WE HAVE CONFISCATED TECHNOLOGIES FROM SIX UNIVERSES AND FOUR DIMENSIONS AND FULL FUNDING FROM A FEAR-BASED COMFORT COUNTRY.
IT'S A GOLDEN AGE.
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR ONE OF YOU PAYROLL BRICKS TO STEP OUT OF LINE AND SKEW YOUR COST BENEFIT MODEL. IF IT'S USE YOU OR LOSE YOU--WE'LL *USE* YOU. I MEAN YOU ALREADY SIGNED ALL THE NECESSARY RELEASE FORMS AND CONTRACTS WHEN WE RECRUITED YOU.
SERIOUSLY, DID YOU ACTUALLY READ THE TERMS OF SERVICE DURING ORIENTATION?
SAME DANCE, DIFFERENT MUSIC. IT WON'T WORK. I'LL MAKE IT NOT WORK. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE I FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE.
THE EFFECTS OF THE BRAIN GUN ARE WEARING OFF--GOOD.
SAME THREATS, NEW LEVERAGE. WE'RE TAKING YOU ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. WHETHER WE TAKE YOUR WIFE AND SON AS WELL...
THAT'S UP TO *YOU*.

MOST OF US DIDN'T THINK YOUR WIFE OR THE CHILD WOULD SURVIVE THE PREGNANCY BUT WE HAVE SOME INTERESTING THEORIES THAT WE'D LOVE TO TEST.
YOU'RE RIGHT THOUGH, EVENTUALLY YOU MIGHT FIND A WAY OUT OF HERE. BUT NOT BEFORE WE COLLECTED YOUR FAMILY INTO FORMALDEHYDE JARS.
IT'S A SIMPLE CHOICE: COOPERATE OR WE VOLUNTEER YOUR FAMILY.
UNGGH!!
THAT WAS IMPRESSIVE--REALLY. YOU'VE GOT NO SUPER STRENGTH--THAT WAS ALL WILLPOWER. FUTILE, BUT IMPRESSIVE NONETHELESS.
I'LL DO WHAT YOU WANT... LEAVE HER ALONE.

ONE YEAR LATER.
I'M OKAY, I THINK. MY PARENTS ARE DRIVING BACK FROM YELLOWSTONE. THEY SAID THEY WOULD HELP WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS.
WE'LL WAIT WITH YOU UNTIL THEY GET HERE, HON.
I APPRECIATE IT. YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN GREAT. WITH THE FOOD AND SITTING HERE. IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU AND MY LITTLE TUGBOAT, I THINK I'D CRAWL UNDER THE CARPET.
HAVE SOME TEA, DEAR. I MADE IT SPECIAL.
I HOPE SPECIAL MEANS ALCOHOL. I'D REALLY LIKE A DRINK.
BRIT LIKED TO DRINK TOO. HE WAS THE FIRST MAN WHO COULD DRINK ME UNDER THE TABLE. AND NOW HE DIED ON ME.
:SNIFF:
I KNOW DEAR. MY HUSBAND CAUGHT A SNIPER'S BULLET IN BERLIN. TOOK HIS HEAD OFF AT THE JAW. I HAD TO HAVE A CLOSED CASKET. IT'S HARD TO LOSE THE ONE YOU LOVE.
THIS TEA TASTES SOUR. I THOUGHT HOWARD WAS YOUR HUSBAND.
HOWARD'S GAY, DEAR. WE'RE NOT MARRIED. WE JUST WORK TOGETHER.
IT'S NOTHING YOU NEED WORRY ABOUT, HON. YOU HAVE SOME NICE SLEEP. YOU'LL WAKE UP IN EIGHT HOURS AND WON'T REMEMBER A THING. POOR DOVE.
I WANT THIS HANDLED QUICK AND CLEAN. WE DELAYED HER PARENTS IN WYOMING. BUT WE'RE ON A DELICATE TIMETABLE. SO CHOP-CHOP.
BUT QUIETLY. DON'T WAKE THE BABY.


THE PENTAGON.
SCIENTISTS ARE LIKE MONKEYS, PUT THEM IN A ROOM WITH ENOUGH TEST TUBES AND TIME AND THEY CAN REPLICATE SHAKESPEARE.
WITH THE TECHNOLOGY AT OUR DISPOSAL, REPLICATING BRIT SHOULD'VE BEEN A CAKEWALK. HE'S NOT STEAK; HE'S GERIATRIC SUPER MEATLOAF. THE NEURAL MAPPING WAS EASY ENOUGH. BRIT THINKS IN NICE BOLD LETTERS.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE QUALITY THAT MADE BRIT THE WET DREAM CANDIDATE FOR COOKIE CUTTING ALSO MADE HIM NIGH UNWORKABLE. HE'S TOO DAMNED INVULNERABLE. THE VIRAL COCKTAILS WE USED TO OBTAIN NECESSARY TISSUE EVENTUALLY DEGRADED EVERY VIABLE SAMPLE.
WE WERE ABLE TO GENERATE TWO BRIT BATCHES. THE FIRST BATCH OF BRITS WAS A HORRORSHOW, THE SECOND WAS MORE PROMISING. SOCIALLY, OUR REPLI-BRITS WERE CHAMELEON BEAUTIFUL. BUT IT HELPS THAT THEY'RE MIMICKING A MISCREANT LONER WITH A HIGH ASSERY INDEX. WITH A LITTLE RE-FORMATTING THEY'RE COMPLIANT LITTLE WORKER BEES.
OUR PROBLEM IS THAT EVERY REPLI-BRIT IS BORN INFECTED. THE VIRAL COCKTAIL BURNS THEM UP. THEY AGE RAPIDLY AT FIRST. SEEMS TO RETARD WHEN THE REPLI-BRITS HIT THEIR "SIXTIES."
THE HYPER AGING STOPS BUT THE INVULNERABILITY BEGINS DEGRADING AT AN ACCELERATED PACE. AND THEN THEY... LOSE THEIR COHESION IN SPECTACULAR WAYS.
SO FOR GOVERNMENT BILLIONS YOU'VE DEVELOPED AN EXPLODING SENIOR CITIZEN SUPER SOLIDER.
NOT EVEN. THE TRUTH? BRIT DISAPPEARED IN ARIZONA. HE WAS EN ROUTE TO THE PHOENIX FACILITY, AND THEN HE WAS GONE.
WE'VE ALREADY EXHAUSTED OUR REMAINING ADAM SAMPLES. UNTIL WE RECOVER BRIT, WE'VE BEEN FORCED TO TAKE SAMPLES FROM REPLI-BRITS
COPIES OF COPIES. DEGRADED SAMPLES FROM DEGRADING SAMPLES. SO, RIGHT ABOUT NOW? YOU HAVE NOTHING.

YESTERDAY YOU DESTROYED OUR LAST BEST SAMPLE ON ICE. AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE. I NEED A CONTINGENCY PLAN.
WOW, YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT. YOU HAVE THE FORESIGHT OF A GOLDFISH. HOW DO YOU PLAN ON EXPLAINING THIS COCKED HAT PARADE TO THE OLD MAN? SERIOUSLY, YOU COULDN'T LEAD A GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH.
YOU SOUND JUST LIKE HIM. JERK MUST RUN IN THE FAMILY. BUT YOU BEING RELATED TO THAT MISANTHROPE, THAT'S A GOOD THING. BECAUSE I'M THINKING YOU'LL MAKE A PERFECT REPLACEMENT. A MARGINALIZED TROUBLEMAKER-- TOO POWERFUL TO RELEASE BUT TOO VOLATILE FOR MAINSTREAM DEPLOYMENT. YOU'RE ALMOST PERFECT, A BRIT WITH A VAGINA.
SCREW YOU.
EXACTLY. THE GOOD NEWS: YOU'RE PHYSICALLY YOUNGER, MUCH STRONGER THAN BRIT AND MUCH LESS INVULNERABLE. THE BAD NEWS: YOU DON'T HAVE A PENIS. WE WANT SOLDIERS, NOT HOMEMAKERS. BETTER NEWS: YOU ARE GOOD FOR SOMETHING. WE LOVE YOUR OVARIES.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT BIRTHING THEM BABIES?
WHEN I MAKE THIS WORK, BRIT WON'T MATTER, LOST OR FOUND. THE OLD MAN WON'T MATTER. I'LL BE RIGHTEOUS. NEW PATRON SAINT OF THE MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX. DECIMAL POINT AND MISTER ZERO FOR THE NEW NEW MATH.
WHEN I'M FREE, I'M GOING TO PUNCH YOU INTO LIQUIDS.

I ONLY NEED YOU FROM THE WAIST DOWN, DARLING. WHEN YOU'RE FREE, YOU WON'T EVEN REMEMBER YOUR NAME.
CAN I KEEP THE TOP HALF?

BRIT

Send your letters to: P.O. Box 1870, Richmond, KY 40476
-or- email: Brit@funkotron.com

Finally, Brit #4, huh? Sorry about all that. The holidays and all...

Sigh.

Anyway, this series is really trucking along nicely for me, if I don't say so myself. I think Bruce, Cliff, Andy and Rus are all doing a fine job... but who cares what I think—let's see what you think.

This series rules!! It's only been two issues and it's already kicking major booty. At first, I was afraid it wasn't going to be good because Robert Kirkman wasn't writing it. I talked to both Ryan Ottley and Robert Kirkman at Comic-Con and they both assured me it was still good. I can't believe those jerks were right! Bruce Brown is doing an awesome job on the series. I'm sure Kirkman editing is helping as well. And of course Rathburn's art is beautiful as always. So, as if you couldn't tell, I love this book and hope it's here to stay! Oh and I love Brit's sister, probably because you can see her bra all the time. So to not make this another boring complementary letter, tell Rathburn to start drawing topless chicks in Brit, like the topless chick from Reaper. See, I gave some constructive criticism too. Keep up the great work guys.

Spencer Davison

Yes, my editing has a whole heck of a lot to do with how awesome this book is... but if you don't like it, I have nothing to do with it. That's how it works... I'm like a real editor! As editor, I'll see what I can do about the topless chicks. In the meantime... Playboy.

Kirkmanathon,

Wow, your crew topped themselves with issue 2. Must be their combined brilliance and the addition of Andy Kuhn. I picked up the Firebreather trades recently because I liked the overall appearance, and then you deliver this great news that Firebreather is coming back in 2008... tell everyone to go read Firebreather, it's really good!

Firebreather is indeed awesome.

Some questions:
1) Did Brit really make his first appearance in Invincible?

No, he didn't. But for a number of years, Brit has only appeared briefly in Invincible, so that's why he's "exploding from those pages."

2) Are you going to let Mr. Brown answer the letters column from time to time? I would like to hear more of his crazy talk outside of the Brit story. That whole "headslug in Chekhov" bit killed me.

I would like to... but these things always end up coming together so last minute and I never think about it until... y'know, right now, and so it ends up being me or a late book. I'll do my best to get Bruce on board next issue.

3) Does Cliff have any plans to sell his original art, say over at splashpageart.com? There're still some of Ryan Ottley's pages available from Invincible that feature Brit. Somebody buy them before I spend all my money!

I'm sure Cliff will be selling his pages eventually... but exactly where that will be remains to be

determined. I'll be sure to post something about it here.
4) So Tech Jacket is coming back when?

When sales on this book double... you heard it here first.

I can't believe you printed more letters pages in Astounding Wolf-Man 3 than the book itself. You really are kind to your readers... putting their legs to sleep on the crapper all the time with your Walking Dead and Invincible... thank God for Brit. I mean thank you.

-Brian Hans

Y'know, God probably had more to do with it than me when you get down too it, so thank him too. It's his fault your legs fall asleep.

Hello Kirkman,

Just wanted to say that I'm enjoying Brit so far... But pleeeease avoid having Invincible show up anytime soon. Don't do like Marvel where Spider-Man or Wolverine have to show up within the first 6 issues of a new series to grab people's attention! It's too predictable.

Yeah, predictable... right. We held on until issue 7... so that makes us cool, right?

I do want to see some villains from Invincible though. They are too cool to not be used more often.

I'll see what we can do.

Any chance we'll see you or anybody from the Brit creative team at Megacon 2008? Pretty please?

I'm pretty sure, that's a big "no" from myself, Cliff and Andy. Rus Wooton will probably be there... that's his stomping grounds. Bruce has attended in the past and may be there this year as well.

And lastly, when is Kirkmania.com gonna be live????
(I know, I'm annoying)

Roch Vaillancourt

It's live NOW! Go to www.kirkmania.com now—please—go now!

Me. Kirkman,
DAMN!! You are one hell of a genius!!

Dude, I barely lift a finger on this book...

BRIT is my favorite character among your creations. Thanks for bringing him back chock full of a creative bunch that will keep on amazing us.. I'm from the Phillipines and i'm collecting the series you brought back.. Thank Image Comics for that..

Thanks, Image!

As for your boys.. Bruce your're bad ass!!
Cliff contiunue kickin ass!!

No love for Andy or Rus, huh? No respect.

Plus i have a suggestion for the letter columen, hope this comes in time "The Ladies Room."

Thanks again!!
J.P.

While I can say you haven't won just yet... "The Ladies Room" is definitely a front-runner. Mostly because I know a few readers would have no idea what it's in reference to.

Okay, issue 5 will be out soon... I promise. Sorry for the delays.

Until then!
—Robert Kirkman

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The i Word

image

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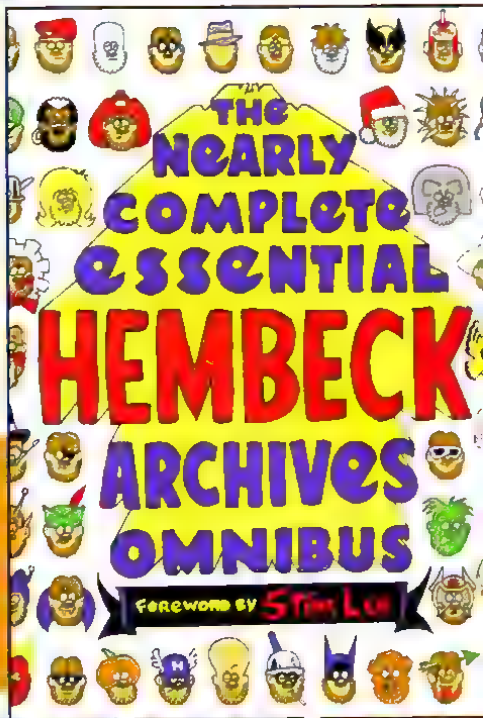
They wield the dreaded shredders – shining atomic shark teeth biting through the scum of society! Their name is acid on the tongue of KAU DEATH! Cruising into the metro-sprawl via the grand ol' Melody Maker, the KRASH BASTARDS take no stick – and give no quarter! An original adventure manga brought to you by Image Comics!

THE PERHAPANAUTS ANNUAL #1

Making the leap to Image with an all-new, easily accessible, oversized annual is THE PERHAPANAUTS, the most popular book you've never heard of! This annual is the perfect jumping-on point for any reader, providing a great introduction to THE PERHAPANAUTS in a self-contained tale that leads directly into the all-new series beginning in April!

SCUD #1

After ten years, Scud the Disposable Assassin RETURNS! The series ended on a cliffhanger with our robot hitman agreeing to destroy the world. Creator ROB SCHRAB (MONSTER HOUSE, THE SARAH SILVERMAN SHOW) vows to conclude this indie gem in a four-part miniseries. Everyone comes back, but does everyone survive?



THE NEARLY COMPLETE ESSENTIAL HEMBECK ARCHIVES OMNIBUS TP

WWW

FEBRUARY HITLIST

- '76 #2 (of 8)
- THE ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN #5
- BRIT #4
- CASANOVA #12
- CEMETERY BLUES #2
- CRAWL SPACE: XXXOMBIES #3
- THE CIRCLE #3
- THE DARKNESS #3
- DYNAMO 5 #12
- ELEPHANTMEN #11
- FEARLESS #4 (of 4)
- GODLAND #21
- GUTWRENCHER #1 (of 3)
- HAWAIIAN DICK #3
- HAZED OGN
- THE INFINITE HORIZON #3 (of 6)
- INVINCIBLE #49
- INVINCIBLE PRESENTS ATOM EVE #2 (of 2)
- JACK STAFF #14
- KRASH BASTARDS OGN
- LOADED BIBLE 3: COMMUNION (one-shot)
- MADMAN ATOMIC COMICS #7
- THE MICE TEMPLAR #3
- MIXTAPE, VOL. 1: FOOD ONE / JIM MAHFOOD ART HC
- NEW WORLD ORDER #2
- THE OVERMAN #3 (of 5)
- PAX ROMANA #3 (of 4)
- THE PERHAPANAUTS ANNUAL #1
- PRINCESS AT MIDNIGHT OGN
- PROOF #5
- PVP #39
- SAVAGE DRAGON #135
- SCUD, THE DISPOSABLE ASSASSIN #21
- SHARK-MAN #2
- SPAWN #175
- SPAWN GODSLAYER #6
- SPECIAL FORCES #3 (of 6)
- STEVE NILES' STRANGE CASES #4
- THE SWORD #5
- THE WALKING DEAD #47
- TRUE STORY SWEAR TO GOD #10
- URBAN MONSTERS #1
- WITCHBLADE #114
- WITCHBLADE TAKERU MANGA #12
- YOUNGBLOOD #2

GRAND LARSENY

A new year already? Hot dog!

When we started up our harshest critics didn't think we'd last fifteen minutes but here we are – boldly heading into year 16 without nary a hiccup!

2007 was a fantastic year for Image Comics, and as we charge into 2008, I can guarantee you this year is going to be even better! We have a lot of great things planned over the course of the year, and if everything goes according to plan, it should be one of our most exciting years since, well, EVER! The next wave is coming and you'll never guess who's coming your way from Image Comics!

But before we get into that – believe it or not, even though Image Comics was founded a staggering 16 years ago, there are still a few folks out there – readers, retailers, creators and so forth – who still don't get what Image is all about (mind-boggling as that might seem). The sad truth is, I don't think a day goes by that I don't read or hear some statement about Image that is not only inanely inaccurate, but flat-out false! You'd think after all these years that the word would have filtered down to every last person on this glorious globe but it appears that's not the case!

Well, let me set you straight on how we do things around here. Gather around, boys and girls. With a bright shiny new year ahead of us, we thought it might be a good time to kick things off with a little refresher course in exactly what Image Comics is all about. Call it Image 101. Take notes – there may be a test later on...

When Image Comics was founded back in 1992, it was done on the premise that creators should own their work! That's the bare bones basics upon which everything else is built. That's the foundation, if you will, and that is still very much the case today.

Image Comics itself does not own a single character or concept! Image Comics own the name "Image" and the Image "i," but that's about it. When a creator shows up with something new – a new character – a new concept – a new title – we don't ask them to sign the rights over to the company. That's not the deal the Image founders wanted for ourselves, and it's not the deal we're striking with the creators who have followed in our footsteps.

What's more, there are no editors at Image Comics telling creators what they can or can't do. There is no committee hiding behind closed doors, dictating story content to writers as there is in most of the other major comic book companies. Sure, we'll proofread stuff and help where we can but the creators are in the driver's seat at Image – not a bunch of suits, calling the shots! These books belong to their creators – not us! These are their babies! And while we're proud to call each and every one of them Image Comics, at Image the creators control their creations. Period.

The unparalleled creative freedom we offer the creators publishing through Image means we don't just put out any one kind of book. We do superhero books, sure, but we also do horror, sci-fi, humor, historical fiction, autobiographies, westerns, fantasy, crime fiction, romance... you name it. Yes, we pick out the books from the thousands submitted to us and yes we do go after creators who have shown a talent for creating comics. But once those creators have made their way to Image, we get out of their way and let them run wild.

Where some publishers can be characterized by a specific type of comic, Image is literally whatever the creators working here want Image Comics to be! Image Comics are the world's greatest creator-owned comics! These stories are the stories that these creators want to tell! These are their visions!

And really, we wouldn't have it any other way!

Sure, there are certain creators at Image who have hired people to work on their books but Image itself doesn't own a single character. We don't assign those books to anybody – the creators of those books find the talent to help them on their titles. Every one of our books are owned and controlled completely by the people who created them.

Nobody's telling Robert Kirkman what he can and can't do in Invincible. Nobody's telling Mike Allred what he can and can't do in Madman. Nobody's telling Scott Kurtz what he can and can't do in PVP. Nobody's telling the Luna Brothers what they can and can't do in the Sword. Nobody's telling Jay Faerber what he can and can't do in Dynamo 5. Nobody's telling Joe Casey what he can and can't do in Gødland. And the list goes on and on.

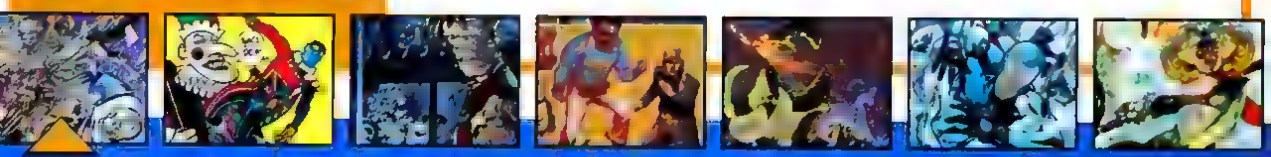
If you created a book at Image Comics, you would own and control that book. If you chose to have somebody pitch in and write a few issues, as its creator, you'd be able to make sure that person didn't destroy your creations or undo every story you'd carefully crafted over the course of your run.

But Image itself? We don't interfere with anybody.

All of our books are creator-owned and I think that fact has been lost on some folks along the way. After reading some comments a person might assume that Marvel, DC and Image essentially operate the same the same way-- and that is far from the case.

The big difference is that, at Marvel, Marvel owns every character that they publish. At DC, DC owns every character that they publish. At Image, the creators of the characters own their own creations and Image itself owns nothing... but that little lowercase "i" in the upper left-hand corner.

And that's just the way we like it!



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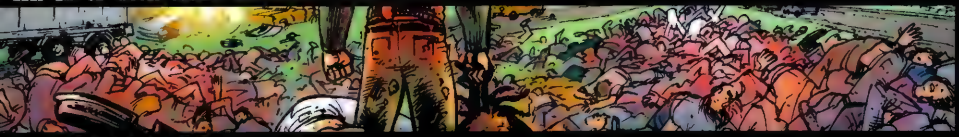

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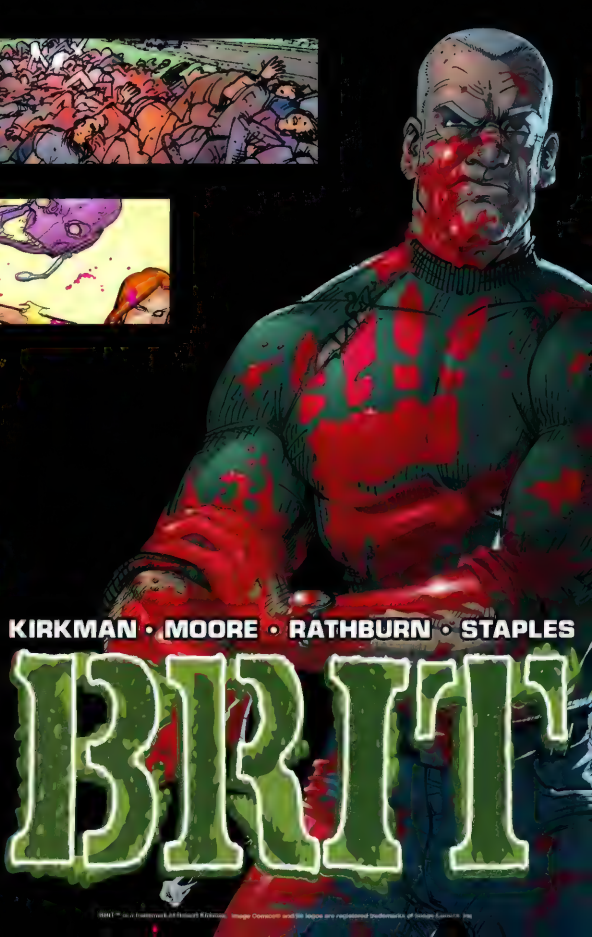

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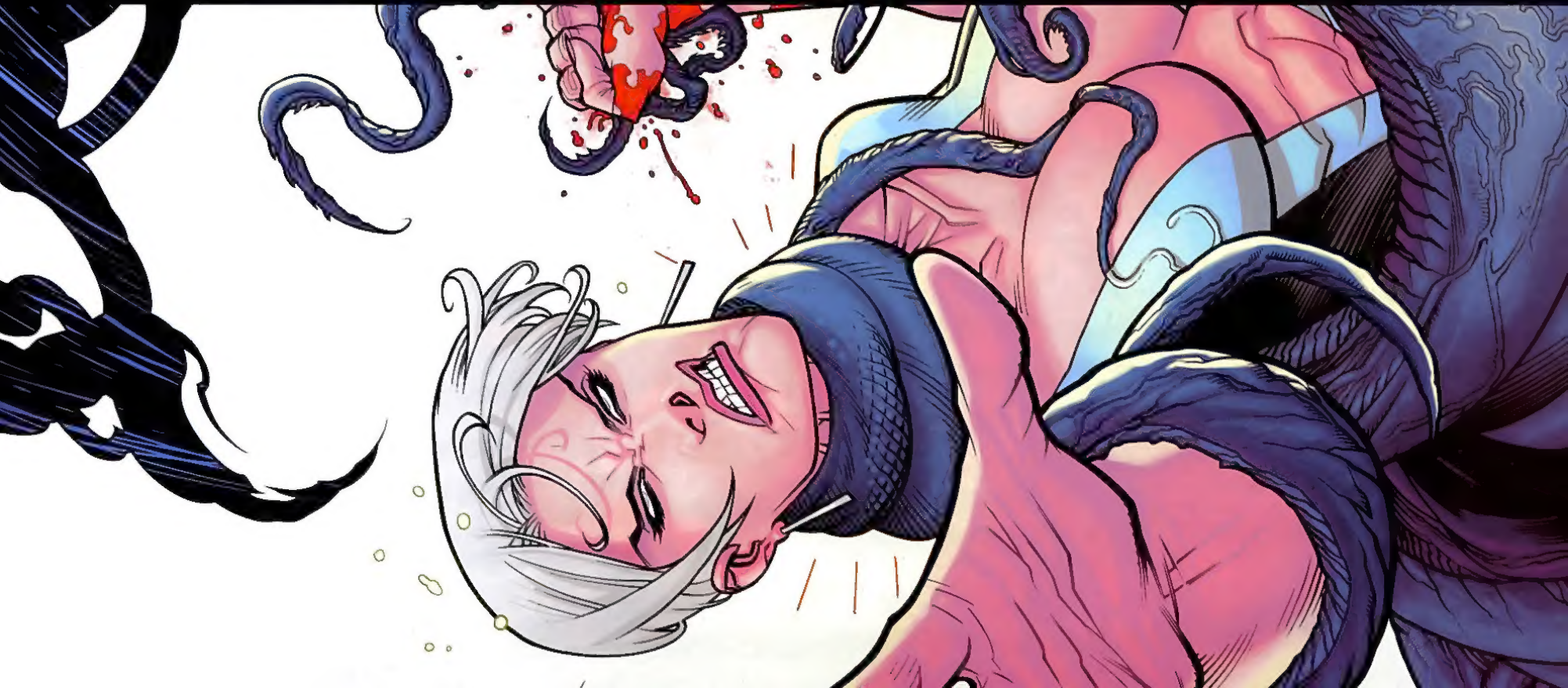
The endgame is drawing near. Who is the mastermind behind the current troubles Brit has experienced —and what is after Brit's sister this time? The answers will shock you!



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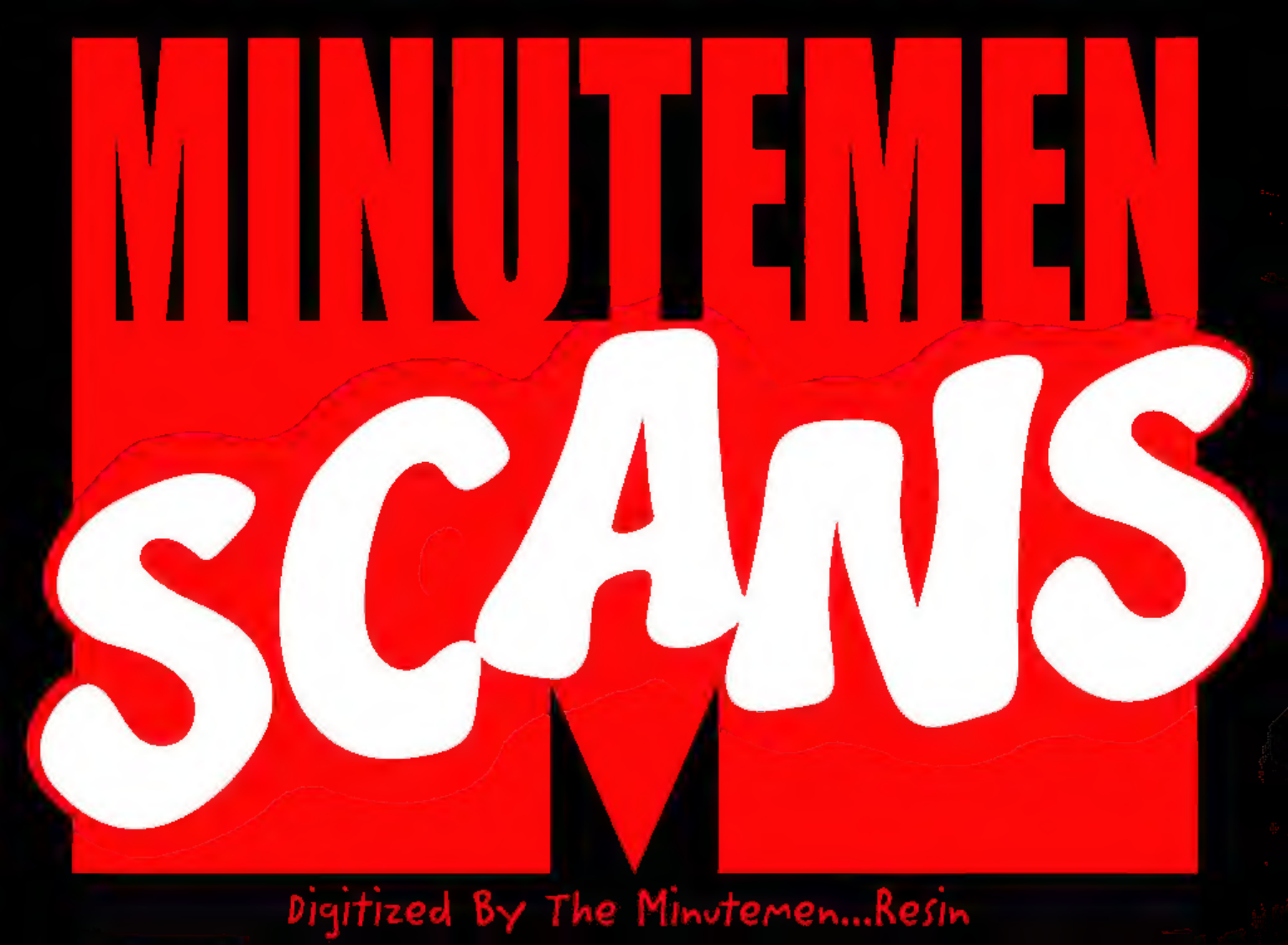
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